

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV223958161US, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: November 17, 2003 Signature: _____

(Julie A. Barber)

Docket No.: 65944-0002
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
John E. Minardi, et al.

Application No.: To Be Assigned

Confirmation No.: Unknown

Filed: Herewith

Art Unit: N/A

For: MULTI-STAGE OPTICAL SWITCHING
DEVICE

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith.

A copy of each reference on PTO/SB/08 is not attached. Each of the references cited on the attached Form PTO-1449 was cited during the prosecution of parent U.S. Patent No. 6,567,206 which issued on May 20, 2003. Accordingly, copies of these references are believed to be available to the Examiner. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), additional copies of these references are not being submitted herewith.

A concise explanation of relevance of the items listed on form PTO/SB/08 is not given.

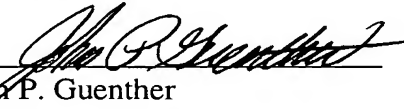
In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 18-0013, under Order No. 65944-0002. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: November 17, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 
John P. Guenther

Registration No.: 39,698
RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC
39533 Woodward Avenue
Suite 140
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48304
(248) 593-3310
Attorney for Applicant

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	To Be Assigned
				Filing Date	Herewith
				First Named Inventor	John E. Minardi
				Art Unit	N/A
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	65944-0003

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date □□□□□□□□ □□□□□□□□	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA	US-3,539,244-B1	11-10-1970	Marks	
	AB	US-3,834,792-B1	09-10-1974	Janning	
	AC	US-4,313,651-B1	02-02-1982	Miller, Jr.	
	AD	US-4,386,827-B1	06-07-1983	Scifres et al.	
	AE	US-4,462,658-B1	07-31-1984	Scifres et al.	
	AF	US-4,706,094-B1	11-10-1987	Kubick	
	AG	US-4,925,261-B1	05-15-1990	Byckling et al.	
	AH	US-4,930,853-B1	06-05-1990	Grego	
	AI	US-4,973,121-B1	11-27-1990	Brophy et al.	
	AJ	US-4,973,900-B1	11-27-1990	Aoshima et al.	
	AK	US-4,995,689-B1	02-26-1991	Sarraf	
	AL	US-5,055,770-B1	10-08-1991	Takahashi et al	
	AM	US-5,071,253-B1	12-10-1991	Chase	
	AN	US-5,175,642-B1	12-29-1992	Funato	
	AO	US-5,253,098-B1	10-12-1993	Hikita et al.	
	AP	US-5,291,566-B1	03-01-1994	Harris	
	AQ	US-5,303,316-B1	04-12-1994	Hammer	
	AR	US-5,658,439-B1	08-19-1997	Burkle et al.	
	AS	US-5,291,567-B1	03-01-1994	Revelli, Jr. et al.	
	AT	US-6,567,206-B1	05-20-2003	Minardi et al.	
	AU	US-2002/0118433-A1	08-29-2002	Romanovsky	
	AV	US-2002/0075783-A1	06-20-2002	Alon et al.	
	AW	US-4,877,312-B1	10-31-1989	Huignard et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
	BA	GB 2215898A	09-27-1989		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

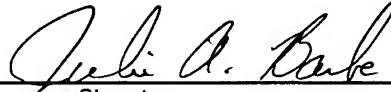
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
--------------------	--	-----------------	--

Certificate of Express Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.10

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV223958161US in an envelope addressed to:

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on November 17, 2003
Date



Signature

Julie A. Barber

Typed or printed name of person signing Certificate

Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing, or this certificate must identify each submitted paper.

IDS (Citation) by Applicant